



Population Indicators

Data and Commentary



As at December 2016



With an Economy that is PROSPEROUS



Dorset Outcomes Framework - Population indicators

Our Corporate Plan and outcomes framework sets out what we as the county council is doing to meet the continuing challenges of the economic climate while ensuring that our Dorset residents receive the services they need the most. We must continue our drive for efficiency and we need to be ambitious and creative in the way we map out the future.

We are focusing on what we do, but more importantly what we achieve with our residents. We want to make sure that as we join together across the county we continue our efforts to encourage economic growth, and help everyone to be safe, healthy and independent. Our outcomes framework is made up of four outcomes, reflecting the county council's commitment to helping residents be **safe, healthy** and **independent**, with an economy that is **prosperous**. The framework supports a common way of working for a **strong and successful Dorset**, with a relentless focus on making a difference and improving the quality of life of our residents.

Dorset's economy is PROSPEROUS

Description	Lead Officer	Page
Productivity rate (GVA per hour worked)	David Walsh	4
Births of new enterprises per 10k population aged 16-64 years	David Walsh	5
Percentage of population aged 16-64 with a level 2 or higher qualification	Anne Gray	6
Annual growth in apprenticeships starts	Anne Gray	7
Percentage of employers with vacancies that have skill shortage vacancies	Maxine Bodell	8
Percentage of children gaining 5 or more GCSEs grade A* - C, including Maths and English	Doug Gilbert	9
Percentage of residents educated to level 4 (or equivalent) and above	Anne Gray	10
Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings	Maxine Bodell	11
Percentage of people living in fuel poverty	Jon Bird	12
Average vehicle speeds during the weekday morning peak on locally managed 'A' roads	Maxine Bodell	13

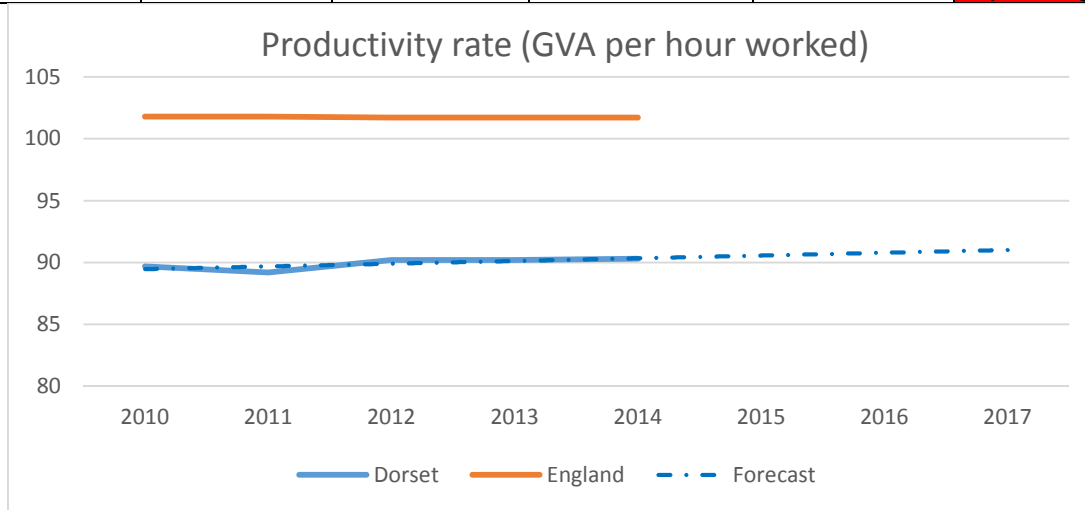


Dorset's economy is PROSPEROUS (Cont'd)

Rates of coverage of superfast broadband and 4G mobile network	Pete Bartlett	14
Bus passenger journeys per head of population	Wayne Sayers	15
Percentage of residents who do any walking or cycling, for any purpose, at least once a month	Wayne Sayers	16



PROSPEROUS: Population Indicator			Productivity rate (GVA per hour worked indexed to UK=100)		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			David Walsh		
Latest	90.3 (2014)	Direction of Travel	↑ Improved	Benchmark (England)	WORSE 101.7 (Average)




Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, GVA per hour worked (productivity) is below the national average and has been for some time. Dorset compares well with neighbours to the west, but less well compared with neighbours to the north and east. This may reflect a number of factors including:

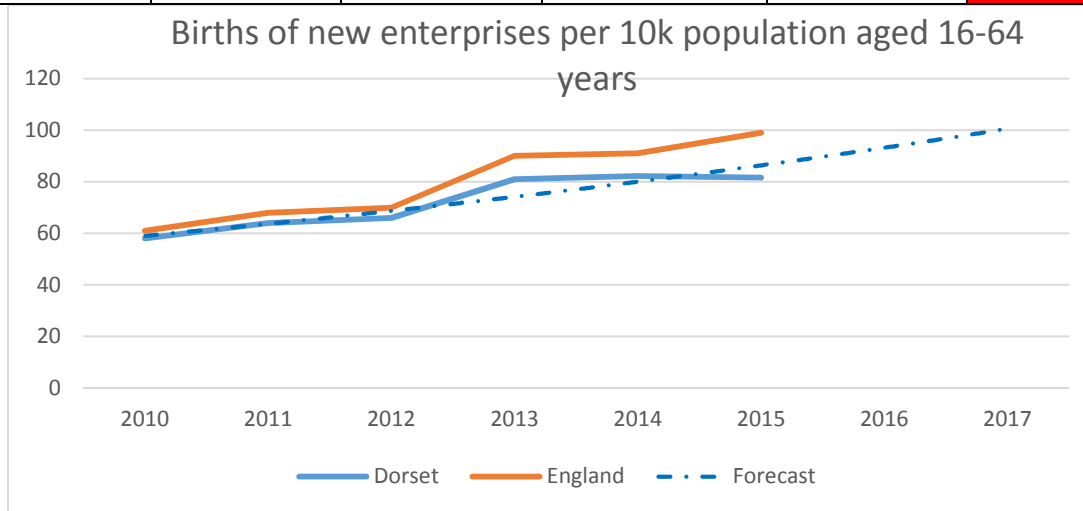
- The structure of industry and employment opportunities eg high representation of tourism related jobs;
- Availability of appropriately skilled workers – skills shortage vacancies suggest a gap in skilled trades occupations: the offer and take-up of more good quality Apprenticeships would help address this;
- An above average percentage of part time jobs;
- Lack of dynamism and low competitiveness in the local economy;
- Distance from and lack of significant population centres;
- Connectivity and supply chain issues;
- Lifestyle choices such as above average self-employment.

Partners with a significant role to play:

Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses



PROSPEROUS: Population			Births of new enterprises per 10k population aged 16-64 years		
Indicator			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			David Walsh		
Latest	82 (2015)	Direction of Travel	 No change	Benchmark	WORSE 99 (Average)




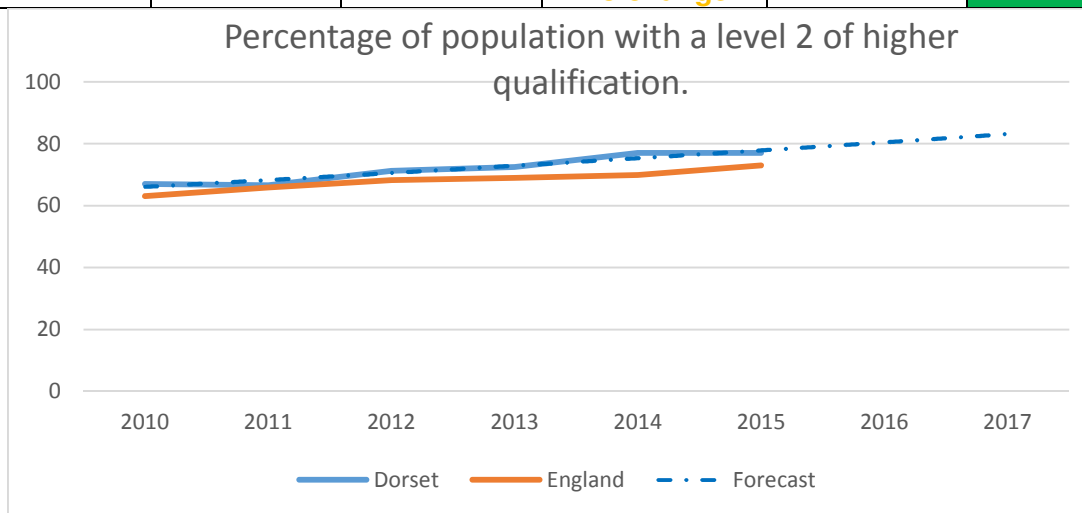
Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, annual growth in the number of business births per 10,000 population aged 16-64 is below the national average and has changed little in the last three years. This could reflect a number of factors such as:

- A lack of available employment land in the right location;
- A lack of choice of suitable employment premises in the right location;
- A lack of innovation/dynamism in local economy;
- Quality of life/lifestyle issues meaning that new business owners may not wish to expand.

Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Percentage of population with a level 2 or higher qualification (aged 16-64)		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Anne Gray		
Latest	77% (2015)	Direction of Travel	 No change	Benchmark	BETTER 73% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: Level 2 is equivalent to having a GCSE at grade A*-C. In Dorset, the percentage of residents aged 16-64 years qualified to NVQ2+ is above the national average and has been for a number of years.

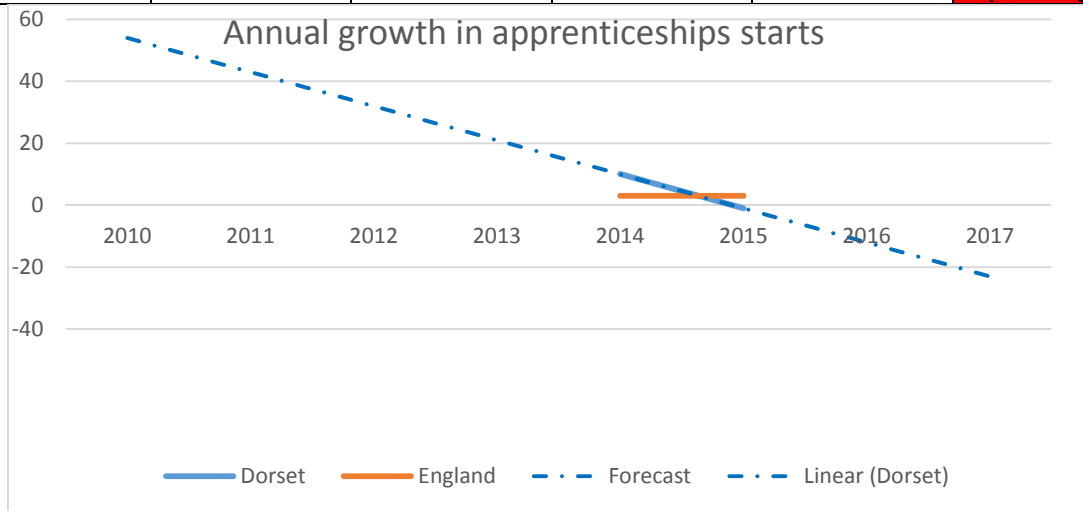
The percentage of residents aged 16-64 skilled to at least level 2 could be raised through a greater take-up of Apprenticeships. This in itself could help reduce skills shortage issues in Dorset, especially among skilled trades, and help drive higher productivity.

Apprenticeship reforms 2017 and the public sector duty for apprenticeship employments indicate an increase in take up of level 2 apprenticeships from 2017.

Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Annual growth in apprenticeships starts		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Anne Gray		
Latest	-1% (2015)	Direction of Travel	↓ Worse	Benchmark (England)	WORSE 3% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, annual growth in the number of apprenticeship starts is frequently below the national average, although the trend seems to be fairly erratic. It is therefore difficult to draw anything conclusive from the trend so far: it could quite rapidly respond to changing circumstances.

Whilst there was a decline over the last known year, the actual number dropped by just thirty, down from 5,680 to 5,650.

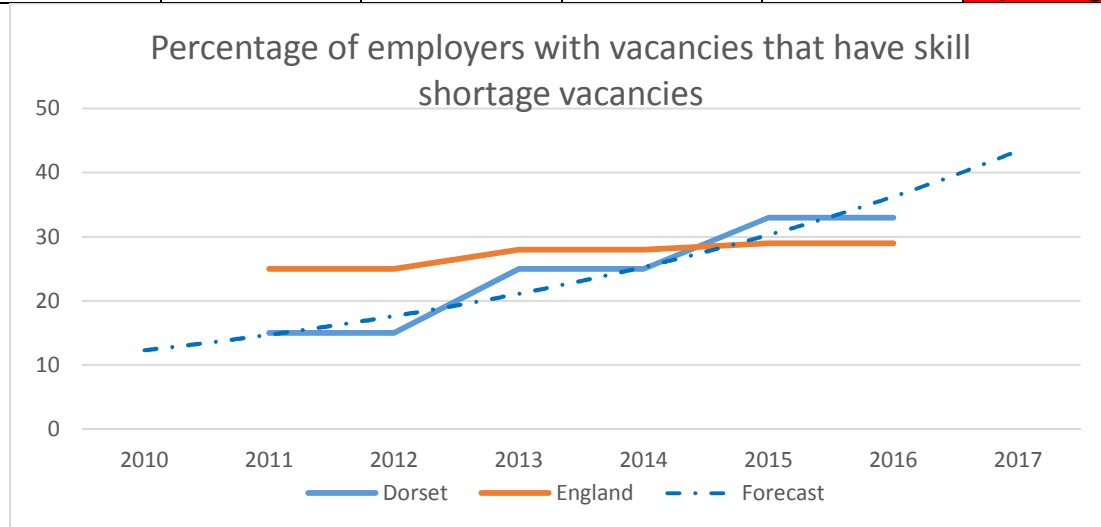
The number of starts may be affected by:

- Employer awareness of Apprenticeships and the breadth of vocational areas on offer.
- Employers unaware of additional funding for apprenticeships in small businesses.
- Low number of apprenticeship opportunities in rural areas.
- Wider awareness of Apprenticeships as a route to employment and perception of this by schools/parents/young people as a 'second class' option;
- Quality of Apprenticeships on offer in terms of training and employment opportunities.

Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses



PROSPEROUS Population Indicator			Percentage of employers with vacancies that have skill shortage vacancies		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Latest	33% (2015)	Direction of Travel	↑ Worse	Benchmark (England)	WORSE 29% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, growth in the number of businesses with skill shortage vacancies is generally below the national average but rose above in the last year. This may reflect a number of factors such as:

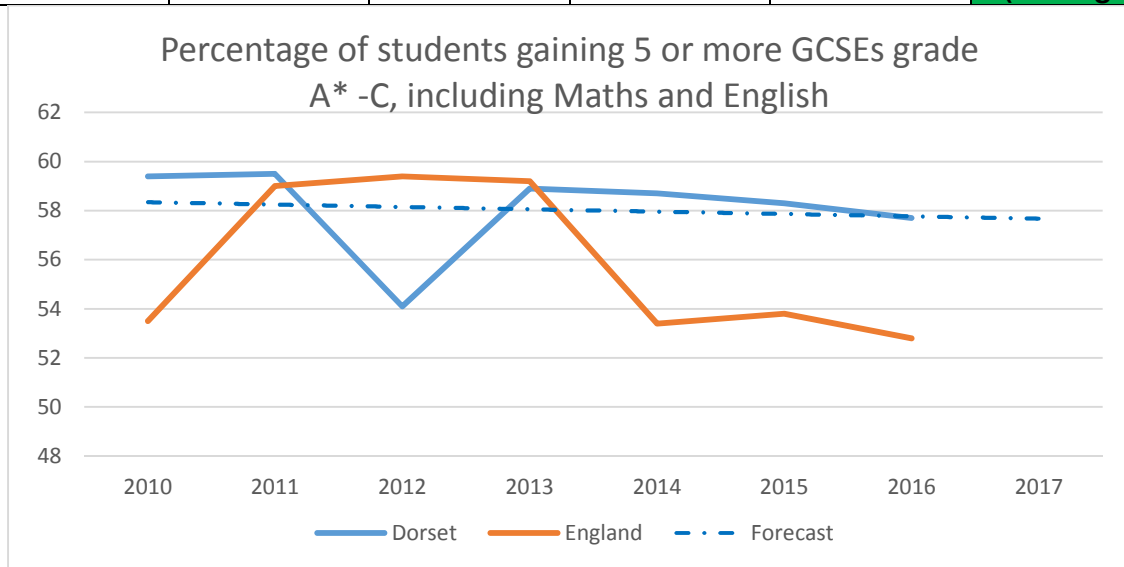
- A lack of appropriate skills in the local labour pool: by occupation, Dorset has above the average skills shortages (considerably) for Skilled trades – reducing this could help raise productivity.
- A lack of take up or availability of Apprenticeships?
- Affordability of housing: note that for Professional occupations - normally among the higher paid - Dorset has below average skills shortages.

There is the potential for the impact of Brexit to exacerbate skills shortages.

Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Percentage of students gaining 5 or more GCSEs grade A* - C, including Maths and English		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Helen Coombes		
Outcome Lead Officer					
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Doug Gilbert		
Latest	57.7% (2016)	Direction of Travel	↓ Worse	Benchmark	BETTER 52.8% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: Achieving this threshold allows pupils to continue in education and increases both employability and life chances. The measure is being discontinued as an accountability indicator, in part due to changes in assessment (the grading system is changing for Maths and English 2017; for all subjects from 2018). The measure has also been seen to encourage too narrow a focus on pupils achieving a C or above – rather than on all pupils across all abilities. There is now a focus on progress with the new Progress indicator.

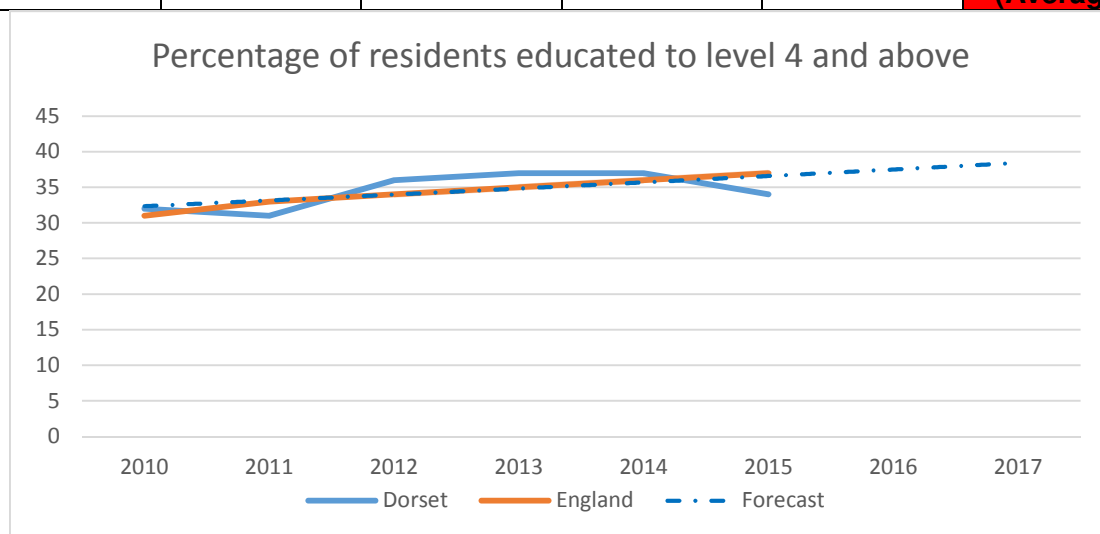
The graph reflects changes and issues in assessment over the past few years. A limit on the number of non-GCSE qualifications and restrictions on early entry in 2013-14 affected the national figures, but had a lesser impact in Dorset where early entry and take up of non-GCSEs were at lower levels. The dip in Dorset figures for 2011-12 was due to the problems surrounding the re-grading of English GCSEs, discussed widely in the media at the time.

Dorset has since recovered its position and remains at a similar level to the South-West, similar local authorities and above the national average. The recent slight decline in national and local performance reflects a move towards harder GCSEs in line with the shift towards English Baccalaureate subjects (Sciences, Humanities and Languages). Performance at a local level is variable and tends to reflect overall school performance.

Partners with a significant role to play: Ofsted, DFE, Regional Schools Commissioner and Wessex School Improvement Board.



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Percentage of residents educated to level 4 and above (age 16-64)		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Anne Gray		
Latest	34% (2015)	Direction of Travel	↓ Worse	Benchmark (England)	WORSE 37% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: Level 4 is equivalent to having a Higher National Certificate (HNC). In Dorset, the percentage of residents qualified to NVQ4+ is mostly above the national average but dropped below in the last year. Care: data is drawn from a household sample survey so year to year changes can reflect statistical error.

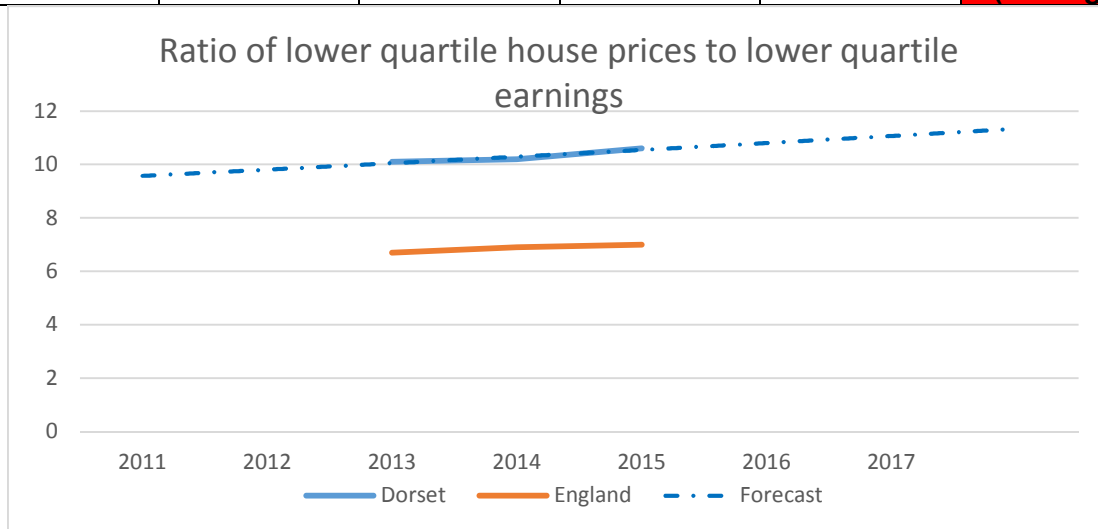
Raising skill levels in the workforce at level 4+ would help reduce skills shortage vacancies, especially for skilled trade's occupations.

Higher level Apprenticeships and the continuation of learning whilst in work would help address this. The development of higher level apprenticeships will be supported by the Apprenticeship reforms 2017, where Levy funding will enable the take up higher level apprenticeships by employers, and the opportunity to up-skill existing staff to a higher level through the apprenticeship route.

Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Latest	10.6 (2015)	Direction of Travel	↑ Worse	Benchmark	WORSE 7.0 (Average)



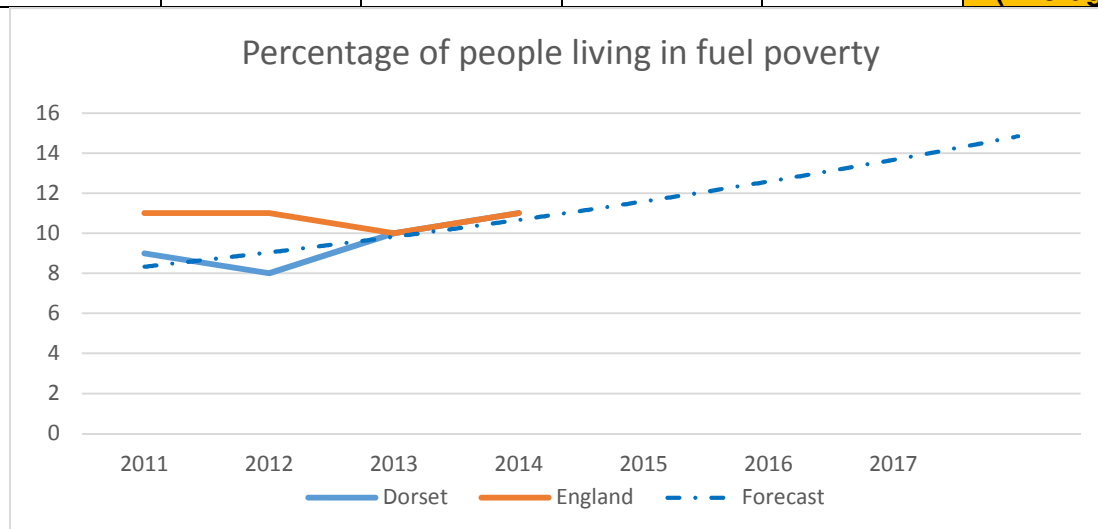
Story behind the baseline: The graph shows the ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings. This is a useful measure as it helps to illustrate the housing affordability gap for people on lower incomes for whom access to affordable housing is likely to be the most acute. Note: data available for Districts/Boroughs only so a crude proxy for Dorset has been shown. It can be seen that the affordability gap between lower quartile earnings and house prices continues to worsen in Dorset and is consistently higher than the national average. In all but one district in Dorset there have been year-on-year increases in the ratio of house prices to incomes. The national average is a ratio of 7 while the Dorset Districts see a range of 8.8 in the 'most affordable' case to 12.9 in the worst affected district. The reasons for this are complex, but are likely to include a combination of the following factors:

- Relatively lower salaries and productivity levels in the economy;
- Higher concentrations of certain lower paid sectors in parts of Dorset such as some services and tourism and the rural economy;
- Constraints on housing land supply such as international habitats, landscape designations and Green Belt;
- Some 'stalled' and difficult-to-deliver housing sites with viability or infrastructure constraints;
- A fall over past years in housebuilding rates and commensurate supply of affordable housing due to wider economic impacts.

Partners with a significant role to play: Partners: Local planning authorities; Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership; education and skills development agencies such as local education authorities, universities, FE colleges and employers.



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Percentage of people living in fuel poverty		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Jon Bird		
Latest	11% (2014)	Direction of Travel	↑ Worse	Benchmark	SIMILAR 11% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, the percentage of households in fuel poverty has risen in the last two years, narrowing the gap to the national average. A household is considered fuel poor if their home has higher than typical heating costs and, were it to be heated adequately, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line. This definition, introduced in 2012, replaced a version based on the need to spend more than 10% of household income on energy.

Wasteful expenditure on energy is a drain on the local and national economy. Living in a cold home also contributes to many physical and mental health problems. Fuel poverty is dictated by home energy efficiency, household income, and the price the household needs to pay for fuel.

Nationally, a household living in fuel poverty typically must pay £371 more a year on energy than those who live in more efficient homes. Improving home energy efficiency is the key long-term solution to alleviating fuel poverty, enabling households to keep warm and healthy.

The relative nature of the fuel poverty indicator makes it difficult to isolate accurately absolute reason for change. However, at a national level, which is likely to broadly mirror the local situation, some households close to the fuel poverty threshold have seen a lower than average increase in disposable income and, therefore, have been pushed into fuel poverty; Fuel prices have increased more than energy efficiency gains, leaving households with higher energy costs in 2014 compared to 2013. However, fuel poor households have seen smaller increases in energy costs than the overall population, which has reduced the fuel poverty gap.

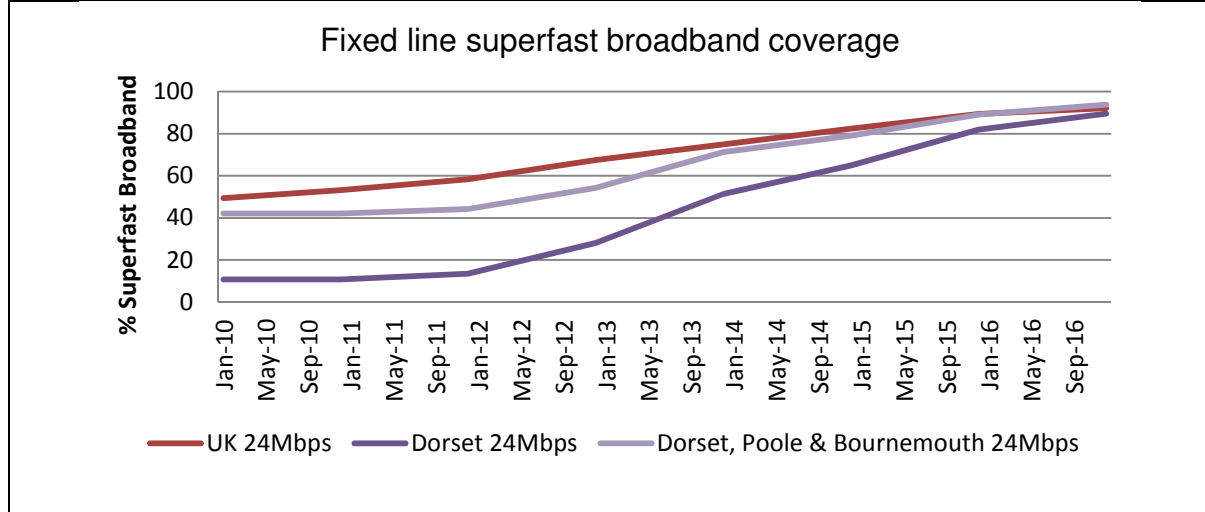
Partners with a significant role to play: District councils, Employers and Central Government.



PROSPEROUS: Population Indicator			Average vehicle speeds during the weekday morning peak on locally managed 'A' roads																										
Outcome			PROSPEROUS																										
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries																										
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell																										
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell																										
Latest	34.7mph	Direction of Travel	↓ Worse	Benchmark (England)	BETTER 23.6mph (Average)																								
<p>Average vehicle speeds during the weekday morning peak on locally managed 'A' roads</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Chart Data: Average vehicle speeds (mph)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Dorset</th> <th>England</th> <th>Forecast</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mar-15</td> <td>34.7</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>34.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apr-15</td> <td>34.7</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>34.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May-15</td> <td>34.7</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>34.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jun-15</td> <td>34.7</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>34.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jul-15</td> <td>34.7</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>34.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Month	Dorset	England	Forecast	Mar-15	34.7	23.6	34.7	Apr-15	34.7	23.6	34.7	May-15	34.7	23.6	34.7	Jun-15	34.7	23.6	34.7	Jul-15	34.7	23.6	34.7
Month	Dorset	England	Forecast																										
Mar-15	34.7	23.6	34.7																										
Apr-15	34.7	23.6	34.7																										
May-15	34.7	23.6	34.7																										
Jun-15	34.7	23.6	34.7																										
Jul-15	34.7	23.6	34.7																										
<p>Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, average vehicle speeds at morning peak time on locally managed A roads are above the national average indicating freer traffic movements for residents, commuters and businesses. However, this dataset shows an average across the A road network and there will be variations across Dorset, particularly at more congested junctions and routes in more heavily populated areas.</p>																													
<p>Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Highways England</p>																													



PROSPEROUS :Population Indicator			Coverage of superfast broadband and 4G mobile network		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Dugald Lockhart		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Pete Bartlett		
Latest	89.6% (July 2016)	Direction of Travel	↑ Improved	Benchmark	SIMILAR 24Mbps (UK Average)



Story behind the baseline: Ofcom produces an annual report 'Connected Nations' that summarises the national digital infrastructure position
https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0028/69634/connected_nations2015.pdf

Detail of Dorset coverage, future plans and a postcode checker are available here:
<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/superfast>
<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/broadband/about>

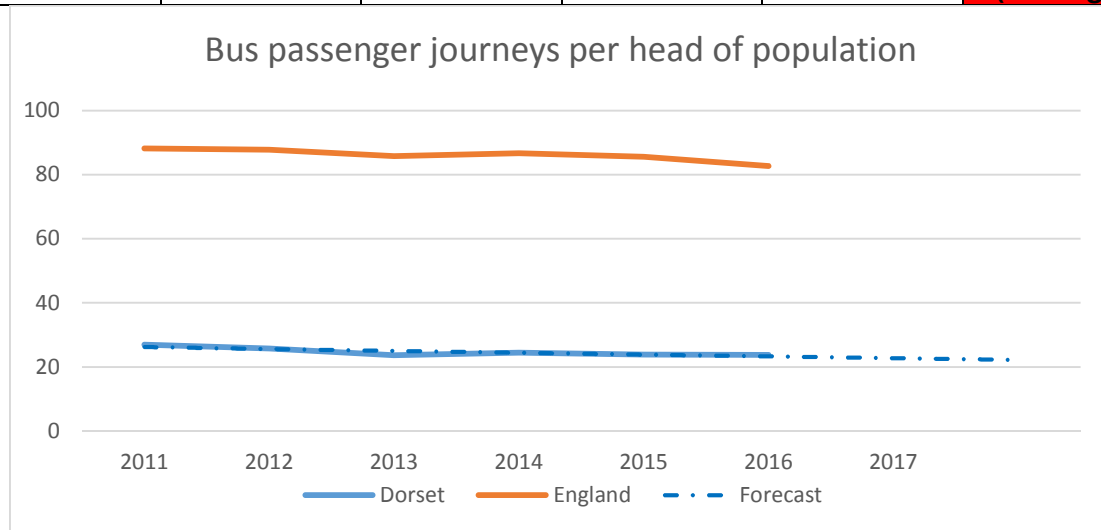
Superfast Broadband Coverage: National and Dorset coverage data independently sourced from <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/uk> (December 2016 – updated quarterly). More local update programme data is also available, but this does not provide a valid national comparator. The Superfast Dorset programme is a partnership programme between all district, borough and unitary authorities across Dorset, Poole and Bournemouth. Two contracts are in place to deliver improved broadband in areas of market failure where there are no commercial plans to provide it. The first contract was let to BT in July 2013 and contracted delivery of 72,500 superfast premises, and is in its final completion stage. Take up of superfast broadband is 30% (December 2016). The second contract was let to BT in May 2015 to deliver 3,500 superfast premises by December 2017. These 2 combine with private sector deployments will provide 97% coverage across the partnership area by completion. A third contract is currently in its procurement phase – this will deliver additional coverage and provide Ultrafast broadband to priority areas for economic growth.

Mobile 4G coverage: Performance data on mobile digital coverage levels are not available nationally or locally. A postcode checker is available from Ofcom:
<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/advice/ofcom-checker>

Partners with a significant role to play: All local authorities in the Superfast Dorset Programme Broadband Delivery UK, part of the Department of Culture, Media and Sports, Ofcom and Private sector fixed line and mobile network digital infrastructure providers.



PROSPEROUS: Population Indicator			Bus passenger journeys per head of population		
Outcome			PROSPEROUS		
Outcome Sponsor			Mike Harries		
Outcome Lead Officer			Maxine Bodell		
Population Indicator Lead Officer			Wayne Sayers		
Latest	23.8	Direction of Travel	↓ Worse	Benchmark (England)	WORSE 82.7 (Average)




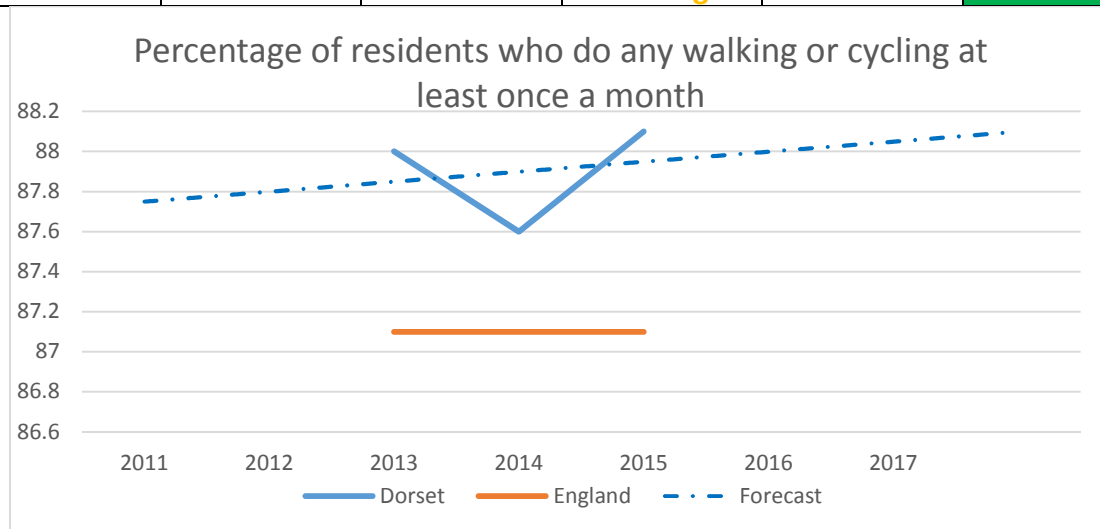
Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, the number of bus passenger journeys per head of population is below the national average.

In more rural parts of Dorset, bus journeys are likely to be longer to transport people to population centres for work or other purposes. Service reductions, fare costs and timetable restrictions may mean that people are more likely to use their own cars instead.

Partners with a significant role to play: District and Borough councils, Bus companies and Dorset LEP



PROSPEROUS: Population Indicator		Percentage of residents who do any walking or cycling, for any purpose, at least once a month			
Outcome		PROSPEROUS			
Outcome Sponsor		Mike Harries			
Outcome Lead Officer		Maxine Bodell			
Population Indicator Lead Officer		Wayne Sayers			
Latest	88.1%	Direction of Travel	 No change	Benchmark (England)	BETTER 87.1% (Average)



Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, the percentage of residents who walk or cycle for any purpose at least once a month is above the national average.

These factors can also be looked at individually.

- The percentage of those walking remains above average.
- The percentage of those cycling is above average has remained relatively static over the past five years
- In areas of Dorset where coherent infrastructure has been provided such as Weymouth, a slight increase in the number of people regularly cycling is shown and the figure is significantly higher than the national average.

The limitations of the data should be remembered as should outside factors which can influence the results. For example poor weather can have a significant influence on the number of people cycling.

Partners with a significant role to play: Public Health Dorset, Sustainable Transport Team – Dorset County Council, Department for Transport, Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership, Sustrans, Borough of Poole, Bournemouth Borough Council and Elected Members.